

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District

## **Public Notice**

In Reply to Application Number CENAB-OP-RMN (HAVRE DE GRACE MARINA/DREDGING) 2009-63041-M06

PN 11-03

Comment Period: January 7, 2011 – February 7, 2011

THE PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC NOTICE IS TO SOLICIT COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE WORK DESCRIBED BELOW. AT THIS TIME, NO DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT A PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED.

The Baltimore District has received an application for a Department of the Army Permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 as described below:

**APPLICANT:** 

Havre de Grace Marina Attn: Mr. Arvid M. Scherpf

9 Concord Place

Havre de Grace, Maryland 21078

**LOCATION:** In the Susquehanna River at 723 Water Street, Havre de Grace, Harford County, Maryland.

WORK: To mechanically maintenance dredge two areas at an existing marina to a maximum depth of -6.0 feet mean low water (MLW), including -0.5 feet of allowable overdredge. The resulting approximately 1,250 cubic yards of dredged material is to be deposited at the Aldino Sod Farm, 3603 Aldino Road, Churchville, Maryland. The proposed dredging project area is approximately 53,930 square feet. The permit for these projects, if approved, would authorize periodic maintenance dredging for a period of ten years from the date of the authorization, subject to prior notification of the District Engineer. Previous dredging was authorized in 2001 under Department of the Army authorization CENAB-OP-RMN (HAVRE DE GRACE MARINA/DREDGING & BULKHEAD) 2001-62274-7, which has expired. The area was last dredged in 2007. In addition to maintenance dredging, the applicant is proposing to reconfigure an existing 40-slip marina by installing a 156-foot long by 6-foot wide floating pier with eighteen 30-foot by 3-foot finger piers, and a 4-foot by 66-foot "T" head; and a 161-foot long by 6-foot wide floating pier with twenty 34-foot by 3-foot finger piers for a total of 36 boat slips. The purpose of the project is to improve navigable access and upgrade the existing pier system. No compensatory mitigation is proposed.

All work is to be completed in accordance with the enclosed plan(s). If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact *Mr. Phil Cwiek at (410) 962-6010*.

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA), as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 04-267), requires all Federal agencies to

consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency that may adversely effect essential fish habitat (EFH). The project site lies in or adjacent to EFH as described under MSFCMA for Scopthalmus aquosos (windowpane flounder) juvenile and adult; Pomatomus saltatrix (blue fish) juvenile and adult; Peprilus triacanthos (Atlantic butterfish) eggs, larvae, juvenile, and adult; Paralicthys dentatus (summer flounder) larvae, juvenile and adult; Centropristus striata (black sea bass) juvenile and adult; and the eggs, larvae, juvenile, and adult stages of Sciaenops ocellatus (red drum), Scomberomorus cavalla (king mackerel), Scomberomorus maculatus (spanish mackerel), and Rachycentron canadum (cobia), all managed species under the MSFCMA. The project has the potential to adversely affect EFH or the species of concern by loss of nursery, forage and/or shelter habitat. However, the District Engineer has made a preliminary determination that site-specific impacts would not be substantial and an abbreviated consultation will be conducted with NMFS. Additionally, certain mitigative measures, such as time-of-year restrictions, will be included to reduce adverse effects to EFH. This determination may be modified if additional information indicates otherwise and would change the preliminary determination.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Written comments concerning the work described above related to the factors listed above or other pertinent factors must be received by the District Engineer, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, PO Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, within the comment period as specified above to receive consideration. The applicant has certified in this application that the proposed activity complies with and will be conducted in a manner consistent with the Maryland Coastal Zone Program. This certification statement is available for inspection in the District Office; however, public comments relating to consistency must be received by the Coastal Zone

Division, Maryland Department of the Environment, 1800 Washington Blvd. Suite 430, Baltimore, Maryland 21230, within the comment period as specified above. It should be noted that CZ Division has a statutory limit of 6 months in which to make its consistency determination. The applicant must obtain any State or local government permits, which may be required.

A preliminary review of this application indicates that the proposed work will not affect listed species or their critical habitat pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. As the evaluation of this application continues, additional information may become available which could modify this preliminary determination.

Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties listed as eligible for inclusion therein are located at the site of the proposed work. Currently unknown archeological, scientific, prehistoric, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

Any person who has an interest, which may be adversely affected by the issuance of this permit, may request a public hearing. The District Engineer must receive the request, which must be in writing, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, PO Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, within the comment period as specified as above to receive consideration. Also, it must clearly state forth the interest that may be adversely affected by this activity in the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected.

It is requested that you communicate the foregoing information concerning the proposed work to any persons known by you to be interested and not being known to this office, who did not receive a copy of this notice.

JOSEPH P. DAVIA

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Chief, Maryland Section Northern











